

Message Text

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QUOTE

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TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: PREFERENCES: MARCH 29 MEETING OF TRADE
COMMITTEE WORKING PARTY TO DISCUSS UNCTAD'S
CONSULTATION PROCEDURE ON THE GSP

1. AT THE SUGGESTION OF THE EC, AND AFTER CONSULTATION
WITH THE CHAIRMEN OF THE GROUP ON PREFERENCES AND THE
TRADE COMMITTEE WORKING PARTY, THE SECRETARIAT HAS
DECIDED TO ORGANIZE A MEETING OF THE LATTER BODY FOR AN
EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON UNCTAD'S CONSULTATION PROCEDURE
ON THE GSP. THIS MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 3:00 P.M.

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MARCH 29. MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE INSTRUCTIONS FOR
THIS MEETING.

2. SECRETARIAT PAPER PREPARED TO SERVE AS BASIS FOR
DISCUSSION (TC/GP/86) SAYS THAT UNCTAD SECRETARY GEN-
ERAL IS CONSULTING WITH DELEGATIONS ON HOW TO FOLLOW
UP THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE JUNE 1977 MEETING OF

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PREFERENCES THAT HE SHOULD MAKE PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVING THE GSP CONSULTATION PROCEDURE. PAPER THEN PROVIDES FOLLOWING LIST OF QUESTIONS FROM UNCTAD SECRETARIAT, ON WHICH IT IS PROPOSED TCWP EXCHANGE VIEWS:

I. IMPROVEMENT OF CONSULTATIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PREFERENCES

A. SHOULD THE GOAL OF CONSULTATIONS BE MORE CLEARLY DEFINED? (THE UNCTAD SECRETARIAT HAS SUGGESTED THAT THIS GOAL SHOULD BE THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE GSP SCHEMES AND OF THEIR UTILISATION - CF. TEXTS REPRODUCED IN THE ANNEX.)

B. FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF GSP CONSULTATIONS, WHAT SHOULD BE THE FREQUENCY AND LENGTH OF THE MEETINGS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE AND OF ITS WORKING GROUP ON RULES OF ORIGIN?

C. WHAT SHOULD BE THE FORMAT OF GSP CONSULTATIONS IN THIS FRAMEWORK?

- PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SESSIONS?

- BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL CONSULTATIONS?

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- ATTENDANCE BY GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES ONLY, OR MIGHT NON-GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES ALSO ATTEND?

- WHAT SORT OF RECORDS SHOULD BE KEPT? IN PARTICULAR, SHOULD THERE CONTINUE TO BE NORMAL REPORTS ON THE MEETINGS, OR SHOULD ONLY THE CONCLUSIONS OR SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR IMPROVEMENTS BE RECORDED?

- HOW TO APPROACH THE SUBJECT: FOCUSING ON SEPARATE ELEMENTS OF THE GSP OR ON INDIVIDUAL SCHEMES? AIMING AT THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, OR STUDYING SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR IMPROVEMENT?

II. DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER CONSULTATION PROCEDURES

A. DOES RESOLUTION 5(VIII) PROVIDE SCOPE TO THE UNCTAD SECRETARIAT FOR SETTING UP A NEW BODY, E.G. AN IGG OR AN AD HOC GROUP OF EXPERTS?

B. HOW MIGHT AD HOC CONSULTATIONS BE ORGANISED? (THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH CONSULTATIONS IS MENTIONED IN THE 1970 AGREED CONCLUSIONS, BUT NONE HAVE EVER BEEN HELD.)

- INSIDE OR OUTSIDE UNCTAD?

- FORMAL OR INFORMAL MEETINGS?

- WHAT FREQUENCY AND TIMING?

- GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES ONLY, OR COULD NON-GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES ALSO ATTEND?

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- SHOULD EACH CONSULTATION BE RESTRICTED TO PARTICULAR SCHEMES?

- WHAT SHOULD BE THE ROLE OF THE UNCTAD SECRETARIAT AT SUCH CONSULTATIONS?

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